

Amendments to the Claims

Please replace the claims as filed with the claims set forth below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1 1.-9. (Canceled)
- 2 10. (Previously Presented) A method for utilizing content objects by a content
3 access point within a customer's premises, wherein the method comprises:
4 creating, at the content access point, a first list of available content objects and a
5 respective format of each available content object;
6 creating, at the content access point, a second list of content object entities and
7 one or more respective formats that each content object entity is capable of
8 supporting;
9 creating, at the content access point, a guide indicating available content objects
10 and, for each particular available content object, one or more content object
11 entities to which that particular content object can be directed, based at least in
12 part on the first list and the second list, each of the one or more content object
13 entities being a separate device that is capable of displaying that particular
14 content object;
15 accessing a first content object from a first content object entity within the
16 customer's premises, wherein the first content object is in a first content
17 format compatible with the first content object entity and wherein the first
18 content object is selected from a group consisting of a voicemail object, an
19 email object, a video object, an audio object, and an Internet web page;
20 abstracting the first content object to create a second content object in an abstract
21 format, wherein the abstract format is compatible with a plurality of content
22 formats;
23 distinguishing the second content object to create a third content object, wherein
24 the third content object is in a second content format that is compatible with a
 second content object entity within the customer's premises, wherein the third

25 content object is selected from a group consisting of a voicemail object, an
26 email object, a video object, an audio object, and an Internet web page, and
27 wherein the third content object is different from the first content format; and
28 providing the third content object to the second content object entity.

1 11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the method
2 further comprises:
3 accessing a fourth content object from a third content object entity wherein the
4 fourth content object is in a third content format compatible with the third
5 content object entity, wherein the fourth content object is selected from a
6 group consisting of a voicemail object, an email object, a video object, an
7 audio object, a document object, and an Internet web page, and wherein the
8 fourth content object is different from the first content format and the second
9 content format;
10 abstracting the fourth content object to create a fifth content object; and
11 combining the fifth content object with the second content object, wherein the
12 combination of the second and fifth content objects are distinguished to create
13 the third content object.

1 12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the first content object is a
2 video object, and wherein the fourth content object is an audio object.

1 13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein abstracting the first content
2 object includes separating an audio portion from a video portion of the video object.

1 14. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the first content object is a
2 video object, and wherein the fourth content object is an Internet object.

1 15. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the method further
2 comprises:
3 identifying a content object associated with one of the first plurality of content
4 object entities that has expired; and
5 removing the identified content object.

1 16. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the first content object is a
2 video object, wherein abstracting the first content object includes removing a visual
3 portion of the video object, and wherein the second content object includes an audio
4 portion of the video object.

1 17.-25. (Canceled)

1 26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the first content
2 object entity is selected from a group consisting of an appliance control system, a
3 telephone information system, a storage medium including video objects, a storage
4 medium including audio objects, an audio stream source, a video stream source, a human
5 interface, the Internet, and an interactive content entity.

1 27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the second
2 content object entity is selected from a group consisting of an appliance control system, a
3 telephone information system, a storage medium including video objects, a Storage
4 medium including audio objects, an audio stream source, a video stream source, a human
5 interface, the Internet, and an interactive content entity.

1 28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein the first content
2 object entity is different from the second content object entity.

1 29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein the third content
2 object entity is selected from a group consisting of an appliance control system, a
3 telephone information system, a storage medium including video objects, a storage
4 medium including audio objects, an audio stream source, a video stream source, a human
5 interface, the Internet, and an interactive content entity.

1 30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the first content
2 object entity is different from the second content object entity and the third content object
3 entity.

1 31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the first content
2 object comprises a voicemail and the third content object comprises an email.

1 32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the first content
2 object comprises an email and the third content object comprises a voicemail.

1 33. (New) The method of claim 10, further comprising:
2 limiting access to the first and second content objects to conform with terms of a
3 license to the first content object.

1 34. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the content object access point is
2 incorporated within a premises network interface device ("NID").